

PATENT
IBM Docket No. GB9-2000-0048US1

Remarks

The September 30 Office action objected to claim 31 as being in improper form. This objection is mooted by the cancellation of claim 31.

The Office action contains rejections of claims 17, 22 - 32 on various grounds. Claims 22 - 32 have been canceled, mooted the rejections of those claims. Claim 17, as it existed at the time of the Office action, has effectively been removed from the application by amending it to include the limitations of claim 18. Claim 18 is canceled.

The Office action indicated that claims 18 - 21 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. As noted above, the current claim 17 is effectively claim 18 recast in independent form. Claim 19 has been amended to make it directly dependent on current claim 17. Claim 20, originally dependent on claim 17, has been rewritten in independent form to include the limitations of the original claim 17. Claim 21 has not been changed.

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It is believed that these changes comply with the requirements of the Office action and will place the application in condition for allowance.

Respectfully Submitted,



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